

World labour leaders ask: can human nature change?

'I DO NOT accept the philosophy of those who, with resigned cynicism, start every other sentence with "Well, human nature being what it is . . .", and so on, and consequently give up before they start', said Lord Collison, workers' representative from Britain to the ILO in Geneva this month.

He was addressing the 108 nation assembly of the International Labour Conference.

'On the contrary', he continued, 'I feel we are at last beginning to plumb the real depths of human nature. The very fact that we talk here in all sincerity about human rights in this International Year of Human Rights indicates man's continuing desire to correct what is wrong wherever it is wrong.'

At the same time at the other end of Lake Geneva weekend conferences were taking place at the MRA centre in Caux. For the last 22 years men and women from all over the world have gone there to find, through changing human nature, solutions to personal, national and international problems.

Having heard something of the work of MRA, representatives to the ILO from 36 countries in recent weeks came to Caux to discover more. A Brazilian said: 'What MRA did in the docks of my country 14 years ago is still a pattern today.'

The Assistant Executive Officer, Federation of Uganda Employers, Eridad Nakibinge, said at Caux: 'It gives us courage to see people out to reform a confused world.'

A major concern of ILO delegates, as expressed in the words of the ILO Director-General, David Morse, is 'the glaring gap which exists in every part of the world between the formal acceptance of human rights

and the extent to which they are enjoyed.'

Many are finding in MRA the one non-political body which offers them a moral basis on which to build a solution. They feel they can come to the Caux conferences and say what they mean. There too they see a more effective way to overcome deadlocks in their countries and to create trust and understanding which they feel is so urgent.

S J H Zaidi, Secretary-General of the Malaysian TUC, who came to Caux with government, management, and workers' delegates from his country, said 'The time must come when hesitation must come to an end. That time and moment came to me today when I heard that song in *Anything to Declare?*: "Are you a man who goes where the wind blows?" It is easy to go along and say nothing. I have decided now to say what

I think and not care what others will say.'

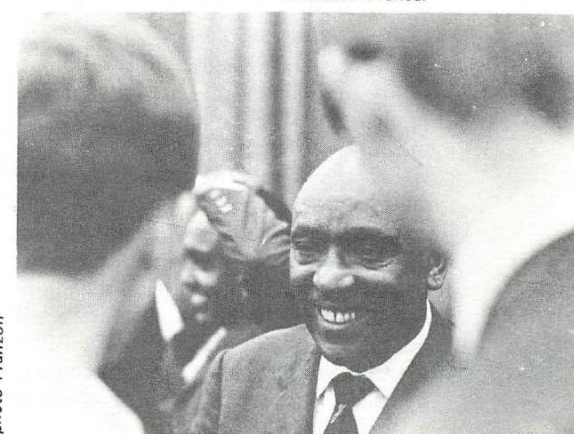
Filipino employers' delegate to the ILO, Augusto Espiritu, said: 'Those of us from the developing countries who talk about the widening gap between the rich and poor nations have no moral right to speak unless we do something about it ourselves. I want to work with you to bring about this change.'

ILO delegates often feel in Geneva that they are shut off from the host community.

Many of them attended MRA film showings and the European revue, *Anything to Declare?* in Geneva, translated simultaneously in English, French, Russian and German. Included in those who saw the revue were the Ministers of Labour of Mauritius, Malagasy, Congo, Ethiopia and Jordan. The five national trade union heads from Zambia, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana were present at one performance alone.

'A great many of our international guests spend years here without ever being invited into a Swiss home,' said Genevese cast member, Jean-Jacques Odier, from the stage after the Geneva

continued overleaf



At performances of 'Anything To Declare?' in Geneva: (left) Major Pe Nyunt, Burmese Deputy Director of Labour Affairs, U Ba Tint, a Burmese sugar factory manager and Vijitha Yapa from Ceylon. (right) Getahun Tessema, Ethiopian Minister of Community Development and Social Affairs, and last year's president of the International Labour Conference.



Egil Aarvik, Norwegian Minister for Social Affairs and his wife meet 'Anything To Declare?' cast members from Norway and Denmark
photo Møllefer

continued from page 1

showings of *Anything to Declare?* 'I don't say this just so you open your homes—that should be natural—we need each other. The basic question,' he said, 'is when they do visit us do they meet Genevese passionately committed to answer the causes of war, hunger and division?'

Anonson Mugala, President of the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions said after seeing the show: 'I came to Geneva expecting to be a lonely man but I have found so many friends.'

The International Labour Conference, supreme body of the ILO meets annually in Geneva to discuss pressing international labour and social questions. Frequently referred to as the 'world parliament of labour', the conference establishes international standards of living and working conditions from which countries can form their government policies.

The general discussion on human rights commanded the greatest interest of the delegates. This was in line with the motto of the ILO: 'Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere.'

The Director-General, speaking on this gap between the rich and poor nations, said: 'The material development of society does not in itself guarantee for each individual a fuller exercise of his rights and freedoms,' he said. There was a large obstacle—'man himself'.

'Only if we succeed in eradicating the scourge of hatred, bitterness and prejudice from the hearts and minds of men can we be said to have made human rights a secure and lasting concept,' he continued.

The Director-General was hopeful:

'Some may say that it is too late to set the balance of things in the world right, that human nature is unchangeable. This is pessimism that must be rejected out of hand. I say this because I believe in the moral and spiritual progress of mankind.'

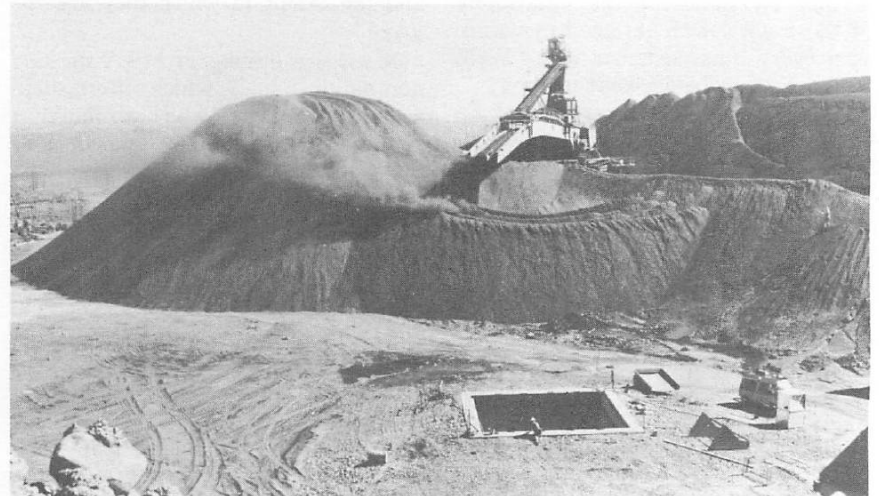
This was the conviction too of ILO delegates after meeting Moral Re-Armament.

Gonzales Rosales, Director-General of the Peru Ministry of Labour, had come to Caux because, he said, he could not 'in this year of human rights go without paying tribute to the past significance and the hope of this work in the world.'

A government delegate from the United Arab Republic, Ali Mohamed Shebata, said: 'If we look at the four absolutes of MRA, that will let us listen to God and God will guide us to the good of our countries.'

'MRA knows how to reorientate the common man and give him a new method of thinking,' said Andres Artilles from Honduras, General Secretary of the Confederation of Central American Workers.

Ampeuro Miranda, Secretary-General of the Peru Ministry of Labour said after seeing the European revue: 'This convinces you that MRA is the way for humanity.' DAVID PORTEOUS



Iron ore stockpile at the new town of Dampier, Western Australia

photo Pedersen

Action taken in new Australian industrial centre

THE AUSTRALASIAN MUSICAL, *Wake Up Matilda*, is now touring the new industrialized region of North West Australia, one of the fastest expanding industrial areas in the world. (See article page 3).

Before leaving Perth the cast talked with the Premier of Western Australia, David Brand; the Minister of Industrial Development in the North West, Charles Court; and the Secretary of the State Trades and Labour Council, James Coleman.

The first performance of the musical was given in the new iron-ore town of Dampier, built on a stretch of rocky coast which until four years ago had never been inhabited by man. The industrial superintendent of Hammersley Iron Ltd, one of the principal companies developing Western Australia's mineral resources, in-

roducing the performance, said he and his colleagues supported the cast 'in the tremendous task they have undertaken.'

After the performance a Belgian couple commented, 'This is revolutionary Christianity. Thank you for the way you have brought God into Dampier.'

With the support of the representative of the Amalgamated Engineering Union members of the cast visited the mess halls of the factory and construction workers.

The musical is scheduled to be performed in the towns of Port Hedland, Mount Tom Price and Mount Newman. Mount Tom Price has a 500 million ton deposit of iron-ore and the ore is shipped to Japan, Belgium and South Wales at the rate of 15 million tons per year.

Australia's wealth and the world's need

by John Williams, an Australian correspondent

AUSTRALIANS are becoming more and more conscious of the world. Over a million immigrants from Britain and Europe have widened Australia's national horizons.

The sizeable Australian contingent in Vietnam has brought home to many the danger of chaos in the future. Australia's Defence and Foreign Ministers have been meeting this month in Kuala Lumpur with their counterparts from Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand to discuss what will happen when Britain pulls out in 1971.

The future could be full of danger or of promise. There is, however, an air of optimism and excitement, fed by the new developments in agriculture and minerals.

Enough high-grade iron ore has been discovered in Western Australia to meet the world's needs for decades. In Queensland and the Northern Territory there is enough bauxite to supply the entire world with aluminium for 50 years. And underneath this bauxite are large deposits of coal.

Between mainland Australia and Tasmania enough oil has been discovered, together with natural gas, to meet one-third of the nation's petroleum needs. Copper, lead, zinc, manganese, nickel—every week there seems to be yet another dramatic mineral discovery.

Fortunes are being made and vast sums invested. The value of the shares in Australia's largest mineral company increased last year by more than all the income-tax collected by the Federal Government, \$1,200 million has been invested in Western Australia alone, and contracts signed for the export of iron ore to Japan, alone, worth \$2,600 million.

Australia already grows 20% of the wheat on the world market and over a quarter of the world's wool.

But what will this wealth actually

be used for? Will Australia be a nation that shows how to bridge the rich-poor gap? Will she and her neighbours in New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea and Asia provide an example of how people of different racial and cultural backgrounds can live together and contribute to their common development?

Or will she be a huge country with a small population and great wealth alongside small countries with huge populations and great poverty?

Big decisions are being made in Australia today, decisions that have not always been made aright elsewhere in the past. Can Australia seize this second chance?

The answer is yes—if the decisions are made in a global perspective and with the motive not of piling up profits and wealth alone but of meeting the need of millions for food, work and faith. To provide this perspective and motive, responsible Australian leadership has been turning increasingly to Moral Re-Armament.

Last year the late Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Harold Holt, PC, attended a Moral Re-Armament musical in Canberra. With him in the audience for *Wake Up Matilda* that evening were some of the nationalist leaders of Papua-New Guinea.

Earlier 17,000 people had seen the show in Papua-New Guinea at a time when it looked as though racial violence was about to break out.

One of the leading Papuans, who had described himself as 'a rabid white-hater' when he first saw the show, six weeks later made a speech at a Moral Re-Armament conference in Port Moresby, calling for a future based on 'solid hard work, non-violence and no hatred'.

A few days later he sat with some friends and together they listened to God. The Papuan leader had the thought that he and his colleagues

should travel with the cast of the musical to Canberra and meet the Australian leadership.

There had been very little direct contact between the leaders of Australia and those in Papua-New Guinea who had begun to call for home rule and eventual independence.

The Papuan leaders were received as honoured guests by Harold Holt and several of his cabinet. They were able to talk over lunch or dinner as man to man. These meetings had great repercussions on what could have developed into a very difficult situation.

Holt had earlier opened a World Conference for Moral Re-Armament in Melbourne. His speech on that occasion was published in the official government publication, *Current Events*, and has been described as one of the main sources of Holt's fresh thinking on Australian foreign policy. This thinking found a ready response, evidenced by the fact that twenty-two Heads of State and world leaders, including representatives from all major Asian nations, travelled to Melbourne at the time of Holt's tragic death last December.

What the world is most looking for is evidence of a new way of doing things. There are many predictions about future alignments in this part of the world. Some have pointed out how much Japan, India and Australia could do together for the region. Others propose pacts with Australia's near neighbours like Malaysia and Indonesia.

But whatever pacts and alliances are made, the real questions about the future still remain: How do you cure the causes of hate? How do you answer corruption? How do you deal with poverty on a vast scale?

Australia's next thirty years will be conditioned not so much by the mineral wealth as whether Australians will dare to attempt to answer these questions.

Thanksgiving Service

THE thanksgiving service for Miss Elizabeth Prescott who, until her recent death, had given much of her time to the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre and its musical programme, will take place in St George's Church, Hanover Square, London, W1 at 11 am on 10 July.

Alan Thornhill, author of *Annie*, will conduct the service.

A British family south of Suez

by Sally Baynard-Smith

WE HAVE just witnessed the visit to Asmara, capital of Eritrea, of the Shah and Queen of Iran and their host in Ethiopia, H I M Emperor Haile Selassie; leaders of two of the oldest countries in the world.

Much of the accomplishment and stability of Ethiopia lies in the quality of the Emperor's 52 years of leadership. As he entertains the Shah on his State visit here we know they had a good friend in common—the late Dr Frank Buchman, who aided them in their aspirations for the moral and spiritual rearmament of their somewhat similar kingdoms.

Telescoping history, the Ethiopian people have moved from illiterate peasant to sophisticated jet pilot or precision engineer in two generations. It is a mark of their capacity and potential.

An editorial in the daily newspaper, *Voice of Ethiopia*, recently said, 'His Imperial Majesty leads this land with the energy and vigour of one in the flower of his youth. Let those who, yet in the flower of youth, show ominous signs of wear and tear, whose constitution is being sapped by excess, look to their indefatigable Emperor for inspiration!'

His leadership is not limited to Ethiopia alone. In an effort to give unity and purpose to the African continent, he inspired the creation of the Organization for African Unity, which has its headquarters in Addis Ababa, the capital.

Britain's role in a country such as this is far from finished. People are grateful for what we were able to do for education in particular during the ten years of British administration after the war. More schools were built during that time than during the 70 years of Italian occupation.

One British export which is fulfilling the expectations of this country consists of three feature films, *Voice of the Hurricane*, *Men of Brazil* and *Decision at Midnight*, each focussing a different angle of Moral Re-Armament. They are running commercially in the main cities, including Addis Ababa.

However, the greatest puzzle to all with whom we talk is the British withdrawal from the Red Sea and the

Gulf of Aden. The hasty withdrawal from Aden has put an undue burden on Ethiopia, especially on the Navy. To anyone living here the case for a British presence in the Red Sea and Gulf area is overwhelming, and total withdrawal could mean more arms from the Eastern Bloc for the rebels against the Ethiopian Government in the province of Eritrea. With Soviet ships in neighbouring seas and a powerful US communications base established here in Asmara, one feels at a focal point.

It is seven months now since we were invited by these warm-hearted and progressive people to help in a programme of MRA for Ethiopia. We have a small home on the outskirts of the city with three bedrooms and one living-cum-dining-room. This one room is used as a cinema for up to 25 people, a dining-room for dinner parties and as an office. Often it is a playroom for our 2-year-old son.

Although we are neither teachers nor doctors, we do have a sense of calling. This is a divided land, and our job is to try and bring a basis for unity to the different castes, classes and creeds. Our home has become a

meeting place for these different factions. One Moslem friend brought 21 Moslems in last month to see the Arabic version of the film *Freedom*. They are now taking it to their people in the country.

The students come in regularly bringing new friends each time. 'The answer to our problems in Ethiopia lies simply in our learning to work hard and together,' said one. 'The only place to start to change this country is with ourselves,' said another.

Some of the ex-rebel leaders who, until the recent Amnesty, spent three years in the Eritrean bush fighting against the government, come in to discuss what the revolution of MRA offers.

'I want my life to be used for a bigger revolution than hatred and violence' is the conviction of one of them. Such people give hope that some countries of Africa could avoid the violence stage that many nations have experienced. The thirst for blood and destruction could be cured and energies spent on the creation of a just society and a world that works in God's way.

Emperor of Ethiopia backs nation wide booklet

A STATEMENT given by the Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, forms the preface to the Ethiopian edition of *Which Way Africa?* published in both the Amharic and Tigrinya languages.

The first copies of the booklet were presented to the Emperor and members of the Royal Family on their recent visit to Asmara. The education authorities, the teachers' training colleges, the Imperial Ethiopian Navy and the National Literacy Campaign are among organizations that have ordered bulk supplies of the booklet. It is expected to be read by millions in the villages of Ethiopia and among the students.

In a series of pungent cartoons with accompanying text it spells out the

standards and objectives for modern nationhood. The Emperor, who arranged for the printing at his own expense, states in the preface:

'We have a great hope for the future through Moral Re-Armament. If a man's mind and conscience are at peace, then a warlike spirit cannot prevail.

'There is a conscience in the human mind and so it is the responsibility of all of us to give straight direction through the printed word.

'We have heard of the progress of MRA in the world, but it must become the property of everyone and everybody must stand for the right inspiration. As MRA is based on the Will of Almighty God we hope that through it we can find God's plan.'

CIVIL SERVICE CAN SET NATIONAL STANDARDS

THE REPORT of the Fulton Committee provides the ground plan for a systematic reorganization of Britain's Home Civil Service.

Will this be sufficient to do the job? The Committee's terms of reference were: 'to examine the structure, recruitment and management, including training, of the Home Civil Service' with a view to ensuring that the Service will be properly equipped for its role in the modern state.

In one of the ancillary volumes to the Committee's Report is an important memorandum compiled by J W P Chidell, representing the views of a cross-section of Civil Servants of all grades and classes. (Below are extracts.)

This memorandum supplies what is perhaps a missing ingredient in the Committee's Report. It says that the Civil Service, in order to secure that prestige essential for public confidence and future recruitment, must not only obtain the full benefits of modern technology and training, but look beyond Whitehall and accept responsibility for setting standards of integrity for the nation.

● THE BEAM of publicity which increasingly focuses upon the Civil Servant today has enhanced the relevance of the principle laid down in 1928 by three distinguished servants of the State, repeated in many staff manuals but still needing to be kept in view. The Service, they said, 'recognises that the State is entitled to demand that its servants shall not only be honest in fact, but beyond reach of the suspicion of dishonesty. . . . It follows that there are spheres of activity legitimately open to the ordinary citizen in which the Civil Servant can play no part or only a limited part. . . . The public expects from (him) a standard of integrity and conduct not only inflexible but fastidious . . . the public have a right to expect that standard and it is the duty of the Service to see that the expectation is fulfilled.' (Cmd 3037).

● While the State is not concerned with the private life of its servants, if we are going to feature in the daily press as the power behind the Minister, we must accept something of the same limitation of our own freedom that is part of the price paid by those who hold public office. Hence the Civil Service Commission will naturally be more concerned with character as a qualification for the public service, and the Treasury will look upon it as a highly important element in the training programmes. Here we have much to learn from the fighting services.

● I start with financial integrity (the context of the enquiry that led to the pronouncements quoted in paragraph [1]). Since 1928 the State's finger in the financial pie had so much thickened

that Sampson could speak, in *The Anatomy of Britain*, of three new Ministries responsible for supervising the major nationalised industries which collectively in 1959 invested £760 millions, nearly as much as the £820m spent by the whole of private manufacturing industry; of the Ministry of Works spending (presumably in 1961) £7m a year in buying furniture and another £2m on carpets. The Minister of Technology is quoted in *The Director* for May 1967 as saying that his Ministry is 'the largest giver of industrial patronage that Britain has ever known in peace-time'.

● **In a society where standards of morality are being conspicuously eroded, the Civil Servant's reputation for integrity is unlikely to survive unless it rests upon a sound attitude towards moral values. The Service could find today an adequate and compelling motive if it looked upon itself as setting standards of morality for the nation; a not unreasonable thing to expect from men and women who by the nature of their work enjoy considerable responsibility without being exposed to the competitive strains of the world of business. This incidentally would invalidate Parkinson's Law.**

● We certainly need in the Service a strong infusion of the scientific outlook; but the arrogant belief that a superior I.Q. alone entitles the possessor to control the destiny of every last citizen can only lead to an ever-expanding bureaucracy and pave the way to the totalitarian state. There are great national resources still available in the infinite variety and independence of the British character. Part of the function of training

should be to generate in the Administrator, along with the humility which is characteristic of the true scientist, the creative insight, the selflessness, and the enduring patience that are needed to exploit these resources. . . .

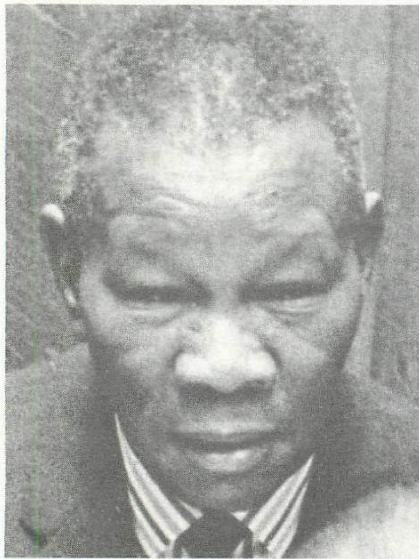
● In the basic relationship of labour/management we have so far escaped in large measures the class war that for far too long obtained in industry. Some of the credit for this must go to the Whitley machinery. Those of my collaborators who have had most experience of using it find that the times when the rank and file Civil Servants have expressed strong discontentment with Management, both locally and nationally, have been when they feel they have been misled. These feelings are equally damaging whether they are justified or the result of that subtlety which my friends claim to find habitual in some administrative circles. Where each side trusts and respects the other and uses frankness, we have an instrument which can be more widely exported to Industry as our share of that field increases. . . .

● The series of defections by Civil Servants from our free democratic environment to totalitarian regimes has made a deep dent in the complacency of the Service. I quote here the suggestion of a Government servant whose training was in Economics, who served in Central and Regional Government in Britain, and also as Adviser under the auspices of the United Nations in Malaysia and later in India. 'The top Civil Servants urgently need ideological training. There should be a course of lectures, run in co-operation with the Security Services, on the ideological battle in the military, economic, industrial and political spheres, hammering home the basic point that a world equipped with nuclear weapons must either find a uniting ideology (which Communism is *not*) or perish; and that is the sphere in which Britain could again lead the world. The emphasis would be on a positive alternative, on the necessity for an ideology of freedom universal enough to embrace the world'.

● **The Diplomatic Service has much common ground with the rest of Whitehall. Moreover in increasing numbers Civil Servants have to go nowadays to represent their country at international conferences or negotiations from time to time without being whole time diplomats. There may**

continued overleaf

AFRICAN LEADER OF SOUTH AFRICA SPEAKS IN LONDON



PHILIP VUNDLA, the elected spokesman of 700,000 Africans in Johannesburg, South Africa, spoke with hope of South Africa's future at an MRA conference in London last weekend.

'South Africa can be a sounding board for unity among nations. We could do it provided we change. South Africa can still shock us and lead in the right way,' he said.

The wealth and skill of South Africa could be used to 'help our brothers in the North,' said the African leader who had led demonstrations and strikes in Johannesburg.

Vundla has a colour-blind approach to men, whether they are Afrikaans Cabinet Ministers or Africans in the townships of Johannesburg.

He is convinced that bloodshed will not meet the needs of his people, but a change in human nature on a big enough scale will.

The African people, he said, were a tough people who wanted straight and incorruptible leaders.

He said that through MRA he had come to care for 'the white children as I care for the black children—it isn't easy in a land divided because of bad politics. I used to say you go and change the white people first. Little did I realize that I was

giving the white people the privilege of changing first!'

The heart transplant operations had put South Africa on the map, Vundla said 'but in MRA we do something that is more powerful, we change hearts without an anaesthetic.'

Vundla is chairman of the recently formed Association for the Social, Educational and Cultural Advancement of the African People of South Africa (ASECA). It is a nationwide organization which is opening the way for great improvements in the education of African children.

ASSEMBLY IN NORTH WEST

'A NEW ORDER in society begins with a new order in the way we live' is the theme of an MRA summer assembly in North-West England at Tirley Garth from Friday, 19 July to Monday, 2 September. The announced programme at the assembly includes training in 'the revolutionary craft of changing men', work on the 40-acre estate to develop the Centre for the thousands who visit it and action in the neighbouring cities 'with men of industry who can export answers to world needs'.

For further information please write to the Conference Secretary, Tirley Garth, Tarporley, Cheshire.

continued from page 5

have been a time when it could have been taken for granted that our small band of foreign envoys and colonial Administrators automatically shared common loyalties and pride in their country's mission. There is an urgent need to formulate a concept of what Britain through the Commonwealth and through all her other multinational associations can give the world today; a concept that goes beyond party politics and without which our representatives will not be able effectively to serve their country.



Dr Hastings Banda, President of Malawi, receives the members of the cast of *Sing-Out Africa* during his visit to Kenya. Dr Banda was a guest of President Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya at his home in Gatundu. Members of the Cabinets of Malawi and Kenya were also present *photo Kabler*

'Happy Deathday' Australasian Fund

IN both Australia and New Zealand fund raising committees have been formed to raise money for the filming of Peter Howard's play *Happy Deathday*.

As a means of letting people glimpse the power of this drama, readings of the play are being held as fund raising events. A reading is to be held this Sunday, 7 July, in Wellington, New Zealand and further readings are planned in Christchurch, Wanganui and Palmerston North.

From all countries, the total raised to date is £22,062 towards the £45,000 needed. Filming has been fixed to start on 23 September.

● A second aspect in which training may be helpful, though it is not just a matter of technique but a quality of caring, is in the art of making effective contact with the country in which we find ourselves serving: not only with its official representatives but with men and women in every walk of life, and contact on a human level that goes deeper than diplomatic formalities. We shall not find it possible unless we first acquire the art at home; a humanity that transcends the barriers of class, colour, creed, financial or social status.